



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CHAMPION (MCM-4)  
FPO AA 34090-1924

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From: Commanding Officer, USS CHAMPION (MCM-4)  
To: Chief of Naval Operations (N09BH)

Subj: COMMAND HISTORY FOR 2000

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12G

Encl: (1) Chronological Command History  
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1. The 2000 command history for USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) submitted in accordance with reference (a) for Department of the Navy archives.

  
K. L. WILLIAMS

## USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) 2000 CHRONOLOGICAL COMMAND HISTORY

January 1-13 - CNO Restricted Availability at South West Marine, Ingleside, TX. LCDR Kenneth L. Williams is Commanding Officer. LCDR Edward C. Olshaw is Executive Officer.

January 14 - Underway from South West Marine, Ingleside, TX to Naval Station Ingleside, Ingleside, TX. Transfer from MCMRON TWO to MCMRON ONE.

January 15-24 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

January 25 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside for Sea Trials in Corpus Christi Oparea(CCOA), TX.

Jan 26-February 4 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

February 5 - Underway CCOA, TX for Reserve Training.

February 6-27 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

February 28-March 2 - Underway Gulf of Mexico enroute to Panama City, FL.

March 3-5 - Inport Coastal Systems Station(CSS), Panama City, FL.

March 6-10 - Underway Panama City Oparea(PCOA), FL for AN/SQQ-32 V3 Sonar Training.

March 11-12 - Inport CSS, Panama City, FL for visit.

March 13-15 - Underway PCOA, FL for AN/SQQ-32 V3 Sonar Training with crews from USS PATRIOT and USS GUARDIAN.

March 16-19 - Inport CSS, Panama City, FL for AN/SQQ-48 Training.

March 20-21 - Underway PCOA, FL for AN/SQQ-32 V3 Sonar Training.

March 22-23 - Underway Gulf of Mexico enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

March 24 - Arrive at Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

March 25-April 16 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

April 17-18 - Commence CART II inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

April 19-20 - Underway CCOA, TX for CART II, conducting Mechanical Minesweeping and ITT Drill.

April 21-24 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

April 25-May 5 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for C5RA/ SEMAT II Assessment.

May 6-7 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

May 8-11 - Underway Gulf of Mexico for Squadron Exercise 00-2, laying exercise mines in the PCOA.

May 12-13 - Inport Naval Station Pasagoula, MS for port visit.

May 14-16 - Underway in the PCOA for RONEX 00-2, conducting minehunting and Q-Route Clearance.

May 17 - Inport CSS, Panama City, FL for an OK-520 Winch Casualty.

May 18 - Underway in the PCOA for RONEX 00-2, conducting minehunting and Q-Route Clearance.

May 19 - Inport CSS for RONEX 00-2 Hot Washup and MUDSU TWO Onload.

May 20-21 - Underway PCOA for mine recovery with MUDSU TWO Divers.

May 22 - Inport CSS, Panama City, FL for MUDSU TWO Offload.

May 23-26 - Underway Gulf of Mexico enroute Naval Station Ingleside, TX. Conducted Magnetic Tail Deployment for training, arriving Ingleside on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup>.

May 27-30 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Memorial Day Holiday Weekend.

May 31-June 1 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for TSTA I MIW in CCOA, TX. Conducted sonar conditions check and minehunting.

June 2-7 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

June 8 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Engineering Qualification. Unable to complete EQUAL due to an approaching hurricane.

June 9-20 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

June 21-22 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX to conduct minesweeping.

June 23-25 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

June 26 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for training in the CCOA, TX.

June 27 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for EQUAL in the CCOA, TX.

June 28-July 10 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

July 11-13 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for MIREM 13 in CCOA, TX.

July 14-15 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

November 14 - Underway in the Chesapeake Bay enroute Annapolis, MD.

November 15-19 - Inport Annapolis, MD for visit and ship tours.

November 20 - Underway the Maryland Delaware Canal and Atlantic Ocean enroute New York, NY.

November 21-23 - Inport New York, NY for visit and Thanksgiving Holiday.

November 24-25 - Underway the Atlantic Ocean enroute to Little Creek Naval Amphibious Base, VA for weather avoidance, arriving the evening of the 25<sup>th</sup>.

November 26-27 - Inport Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA for visit.

November 28-30 - Underway the Atlantic Ocean enroute Mayport, FL, arriving Mayport on the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup>, for fuel and stores.

December 1-3 - Underway the Atlantic Ocean enroute Key West, FL.

December 4 - Inport Key West, FL for fuel and stores.

December 5-6 - Underway the Gulf of Mexico enroute PCOA, FL.

December 7 - Conducted Sonar Performance Model and Bottom Sediment Classifier testing in the PCOA, FL.

December 8-10 - Inport CSS Panama City, FL for visit.

December 11-14 - Underway the Gulf of Mexico enroute Ingleside, TX.

December 15 - Mine Warfare Readiness Group Two arrives Naval Station Ingleside, TX.

December 16-31 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep and Holiday Standdown.

July 16-21 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for Gulf of Mexico Exercise (GOMEX) 00-2. Conducted minehunting and Mine Neutralization Vehicle (MNV) operations. Return to Naval Station Ingleside, TX upon completion of GOMEX 00-2.

July 22-September 6 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep, Predeployment Standdown, and Diesel Engine Inspections.

September 7-8 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX for training in the CCOA, TX.

September 9-11 - Inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for upkeep.

September 12-14 - Underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX in the Gulf of Mexico enroute to Beaumont, TX. Mine Warfare Readiness Group Two Deployment begins.

September 15-18 - Inport Beaumont, TX for Beaumont Navy Days.

September 19-20 - Underway from Beaumont in the Gulf of Mexico.

September 21-23 - Inport Beaumont, TX for Weather Avoidance.

September 25-28 - Underway in the Gulf of Mexico enroute Key West, FL for fuel.

September 29-October 2 - Inport Key West, FL for Weather Avoidance.

October 3 - Underway in the Atlantic Ocean enroute Mayport, FL.

October 4 - Underway in the Jacksonville Oparea for Final Evaluation Problem.

October 5-11 - Inport Mayport, FL for upkeep and Unified Spirit 2000 and JTFEX 00-1 Briefings.

October 12-16 - Underway Onslow Bay in support of Unified Spirit 2000 and JTFEX 00-1, conducting minehunting and MNV operations.

October 17 - Inport Moorhead City, NC for fuel and stores.

October 18-19 - Underway Onslow Bay in support of Unified Spirit 2000 and JTFEX 00-1, conducting minehunting and MNV operations.

October 20 - Inport Moorhead City, NC for fuel and stores.

October 21-22 - Underway Onslow Bay in support of Unified Spirit 2000 and JTFEX 00-1.

October 23-24 - Underway in the Atlantic Ocean enroute Norfolk, VA.

October 25-November 5 - Inport Naval Station Norfolk, VA for upkeep.

November 6-9 - Underway in the Atlantic Ocean for minesweeping and testing of the Sonar Performance Model and Bottom Sediment Classifier.

November 10-13 - Inport Naval Station Norfolk, VA for visit.

## USS CHAMPION 2000 NARRATIVE HISTORY

USS CHAMPION (MCM-4) was in a CNO Restricted Availability at South West Marine, Ingleside, TX from January 1<sup>st</sup> through the 13<sup>th</sup>. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of January USS CHAMPION was transferred from Mine Counter Measure Squadron Two to Mine Counter Measure Squadron One and got underway from South West Marine Ingleside, TX to Naval Station Ingleside, TX. USS CHAMPION was inport at Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 15<sup>th</sup> of January until the 24<sup>th</sup> of January for upkeep. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of January USS CHAMPION got underway for Sea Trials in the Corpus Christi Operating Area (CCOA). USS CHAMPION returned to Naval Station Ingleside, TX and commenced an upkeep period from the 26<sup>th</sup> of January until the 4<sup>th</sup> of February.

USS CHAMPION was underway in the CCOA for Naval Reserve Training. From the 6<sup>th</sup> of February until the 27<sup>th</sup> of February USS CHAMPION conducted an upkeep period. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of February USS CHAMPION got underway from Naval Station Ingleside, TX enroute to Panama City, FL until the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March. USS CHAMPION was inport at Coastal System Station (CSS), Panama City, FL from the 3<sup>rd</sup> until the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. USS CHAMPION was underway in the Panama City Operating Area (PCOA) from the 6<sup>th</sup> until the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, conducting AN/SQQ-32 V3 Sonar Training for the crew. USS CHAMPION was inport CSS Panama City, FL from the 11<sup>th</sup> until the 12<sup>th</sup> of March. USS CHAMPION was underway in the PCOA for SQQ-32 Sonar Training for crews from the USS PARTIOT and the USS GUARDIAN from the 13<sup>th</sup> until the 15<sup>th</sup>. USS CHAMPION was inport CSS Panama City, FL from the 16<sup>th</sup> of March until the 19<sup>th</sup> for AN/SQQ-48 Mine Neutralization Vehicle Training. USS CHAMPION got underway from CSS Panama City, FL on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March for SQQ-32 Sonar Training and completed the training on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March. CHAMPION conducted a Gulf of Mexico transit on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. USS CHAMPION arrived at Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March.

USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 25<sup>th</sup> of March until the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. CHAMPION commenced CART II on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of April at Naval Station Ingleside, TX. On the 19<sup>th</sup> of April USS CHAMPION got underway for the CCOA to do the underway portion of CART II. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of April USS CHAMPION conducted an Integrated Training Team Drill while conducting minesweeping operations. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 21<sup>st</sup> of April until the 24<sup>th</sup> of April. On the 25<sup>th</sup> of April until the 5<sup>th</sup> of May USS CHAMPION conducted a C5RA/ SEMAT II visit which included engineering and combat systems being groomed. CHAMPION was inport the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of May for an upkeep period.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of May USS CHAMPION got underway enroute the PCOA to lay mines for the Squadron Exercise 00-2 (RONEX 00-2). USS CHAMPION laid 6 moored mines and 3 bottom mines along Q-routes that would be used during the exercise, flexing the minehunting capabilities of the six ship group. USS CHAMPION arrived at Naval Station Pasagoula, MS for a port visit from the 12<sup>th</sup> until the 13<sup>th</sup> of May, receiving the last few briefs prior to beginning RONEX 00-2. USS CHAMPION got underway from Pasagoula, MS on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May enroute to the PCOA. While enroute USS CHAMPION dropped a bottom mine shape for the exercise participants to conduct a Sonar Conditions Check. USS CHAMPION was underway the PCOA from the 14<sup>th</sup> until the 16<sup>th</sup> of May conducting Q-Route Surveys, searching for possible mine shapes. USS CHAMPION arrived inport CSS Panama City, FL for an OK-520 Sonar Winch casualty. After having CSS Technicians examine the OK-520 Winch USS CHAMPION got

underway from CSS Panama City, FL on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May and completed the exercise. USS CHAMPION arrived inport CSS Panama City, FL for RONEX 00-2 Hot wash-up and to onload MUDSU Two Divers. USS CHAMPION departed CSS Panama City, FL on the morning of May 20<sup>th</sup> to recover six bottom mines that were laid for RONEX 00-2 and the Sonar Conditions Check shape. USS CHAMPION returned to CSS Panama City, FL on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May to offload MUDSU Two Divers and their equipment. CHAMPION departed Panama City, FL on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May for a Gulf of Mexico transit and arrived at Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 27<sup>th</sup> until the 30<sup>th</sup> of May for the Memorial Day weekend.

USS CHAMPION got underway on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May for TSTA I Mine Warfare Training in the CCOA, conducting a Sonar Conditions Check and mine hunting training until the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from June 2<sup>nd</sup> until the 7<sup>th</sup> for upkeep. USS CHAMPION got underway on the 8<sup>th</sup> of June to conduct EQUAL, but was unable to complete the inspection due to an approaching hurricane. USS CHAMPION was inport from the 9<sup>th</sup> of June until the 20<sup>th</sup> for an upkeep and training period. USS CHAMPION was underway on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of June conducting minesweeping training. From the 23<sup>rd</sup> until the 25<sup>th</sup> of June USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for an upkeep period. USS CHAMPION was underway in the CCOA on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June for crew training. On the 27<sup>th</sup> of June the EQUAL team arrived via a small boat transfer to conduct the Engineering Qualification Inspection. USS CHAMPION completed EQUAL and returned to Naval Station Ingleside, TX on that same day. USS CHAMPION conducted an upkeep period from the 28<sup>th</sup> of June until the 10<sup>th</sup> of July, preparing for MIREM 13 and Gulf of Mexico Exercise 00-2 (GOMEX 00-2).

USS CHAMPION got underway on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July until the 13<sup>th</sup> for MIREM 13 Exercise, conducting mine hunting operations in the VEMS fields that were placed in the CCOA, to collect data about mine hunting units. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of July for fuel and briefings for GOMEX 00-2. USS CHAMPION participated in GOMEX 00-2 from the 16<sup>th</sup> until the early morning of the 21<sup>st</sup> of July. During GOMEX 00-2 USS CHAMPION worked with other Mine Warfare Readiness Group Two (MIWRG Two) Units completing certification for a deployable task group. USS CHAMPION returned to Naval Station Ingleside, TX during the late morning of the 21<sup>st</sup>. From the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July until September 6<sup>th</sup> USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX for an upkeep period, Diesel Engine Inspection and Pre-deployment Standdown.

USS CHAMPION was underway in the CCOA on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of September. During this underway period training was conducted for mine hunting and towing exercises. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 9<sup>th</sup> until the 11<sup>th</sup> of September. USS CHAMPION departed Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September, underway the Gulf of Mexico, enroute to Beaumont, TX for Beaumont Navy Days. After completing a six hour river transit USS CHAMPION arrived inport Beaumont, TX on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September. USS CHAMPION, along with 5 other MIWRG Two units, were inport Beaumont, TX from the 15<sup>th</sup> until the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. USS CHAMPION was underway in the Gulf of Mexico on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of September. USS CHAMPION was ordered back to Beaumont, TX for weather avoidance along with the USS HERON. USS CHAMPION was inport Beaumont, TX from the 21<sup>st</sup> until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September. On the 24<sup>th</sup> of September USS CHAMPION in company with USS HERON commenced a Gulf of Mexico transit enroute to Key West, FL.

USS CHAMPION arrived inport Key West, FL on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September. While refueling both the USS CHAMPION and USS HERON were ordered to remain in Key West, FL for weather avoidance until the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October. USS CHAMPION departed Key West, FL on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October enroute to the Atlantic Ocean. USS CHAMPION arrived in the Jacksonville Operating Area for the Final Evaluation Problem(FEP). USS CHAMPION completed FEP on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October and arrived inport Mayport, FL. USS CHAMPION was inport Mayport, FL from the 5<sup>th</sup> until the 11<sup>th</sup> of October. During this time briefings were conducted for Unified Spirit 2000 and JTFEX 00-1. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of October USS CHAMPION departed Mayport, FL in the morning but returned to the area the evening of the 12<sup>th</sup> for a Medical Evacuation of a crewmember. USS CHAMPION arrived in Onslow Bay on the morning of the 13<sup>th</sup> to conduct mine hunting operations. During Unified Spirit 2000 USS CHAMPION and attached EOD divers identified multiple objects on the sea floor, including three Mark 6 moored exercise mines. USS CHAMPION conducted a Brief Stop for Fuel in Moorhead City, NC on the 17<sup>th</sup> of October. Onloading food and fuel USS CHAMPION again headed to Onslow Bay to continue the exercise.

USS CHAMPION was underway in Onslow Bay from the 18<sup>th</sup> until the 19<sup>th</sup> of October. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of October USS CHAMPION again went to Moorhead City, NC for fuel and food onload. USS CHAMPION was underway in Onslow Bay the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of October to complete the mine warfare portion of Unified Spirit 2000. USS CHAMPION conducted an Atlantic transit to Norfolk, VA, with other MIWRG Two units from the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. USS CHAMPION arrived in Norfolk, VA on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Norfolk, VA from the 25<sup>th</sup> of October until the 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

USS CHAMPION was underway from the 6<sup>th</sup> until the 9<sup>th</sup> of November in the VACAPES Operating Area. During this time USS CHAMPION conducted field testing of the Sonar Performance Model and Bottom Sediment Classifier and mine sweeping training. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Norfolk, VA from the 10<sup>th</sup> until the 13<sup>th</sup> of November for upkeep. On the 14<sup>th</sup> of November USS CHAMPION, USS HERON, and USS PELICAN conducted a transit up the Chesapeake Bay enroute to Annapolis, MD. USS CHAMPION arrived at Annapolis, MD on the 15<sup>th</sup> of November and was inport until the 19<sup>th</sup>. While inport Annapolis, MD crewmembers enjoyed local attractions and the National Monuments in Washington, DC. USS CHAMPION was underway on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November in the Maryland Delaware Canal and the Atlantic Ocean, enroute to New York, NY.

USS CHAMPION arrived in New York, NY on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November and was inport until the 23<sup>rd</sup>. During the visit crewmembers enjoyed local attractions, national television shows, and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. USS CHAMPION departed New York, NY on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November enroute to Mayport, FL. USS CHAMPION, USS HERON, and USS PELICAN while enroute on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November were diverted to Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA due to bad weather. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November. USS CHAMPION departed Little Creek, VA on the 28<sup>th</sup> of November and was enroute to Mayport, FL on the 29<sup>th</sup>. USS CHAMPION arrived in Mayport, FL on the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Receiving fuel and stores USS CHAMPION departed Mayport, FL on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December.

USS CHAMPION was underway in the Atlantic Ocean enroute to Key West, FL on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December until the 3<sup>rd</sup>. USS CHAMPION arrived in Key West, FL on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December receiving fuel and stores. USS CHAMPION was underway the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of December enroute to CSS Panama City and the Panama City Operating Area for further testing of the Bottom Sediment Classifier and Sonar Performance Model. USS CHAMPION



conducted testing on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December in the PCOA. USS CHAMPION arrived inport CSS Panama City, FL the afternoon of the 7<sup>th</sup>. USS CHAMPION was inport Panama City, FL from the 8<sup>th</sup> until the 10<sup>th</sup> of December. USS CHAMPION departed CSS Panama City, FL on the morning of the 11<sup>th</sup>. USS CHAMPION was enroute to Naval Station Ingleside, TX in the Gulf of Mexico.

USS CHAMPION and the rest of Mine Warfare Readiness Group Two arrived at Naval Station Ingleside, TX on the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, to fog and family members. USS CHAMPION was inport Naval Station Ingleside, TX from the 16<sup>th</sup> of December until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December for upkeep and the Christmas Holiday Standdown.